AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (Currently amended) A method, comprising:

sensing the presence of an indicator in a vicinity of an icon having associated thumbnail data representative of content of an associated object; and

rendering a superimposed view of at least a portion of the thumbnail data, the superimposed view rendered in the vicinity of the icon.

2.   (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising pre-caching thumbnail data associated with at least one icon.

3.   (Original) The method according to claim 2, wherein pre-caching the thumbnail data includes storing the thumbnail data in volatile memory.

4.   (Original) The method according to claim 2, wherein rendering includes retrieving the pre-cached thumbnail data associated with the icon.

5.   (Currently amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein the rendering of the superimposed view occurs substantially immediately after sensing the indicator.

6.   (Original) The method according to claim 2, wherein thumbnail data associated with a plurality of icons are pre-cached.

7.   (Currently amended) The method according to claim 6, wherein the number of icons that include thumbnail data being pre-cached is a predetermined maximum number of icons.

8.   (Currently amended) The method according to claim 7, wherein the predetermined maximum number of icons is a predetermined maximum number of icons located in an area situated in the region of the icon the indicator is in the vicinity of.

9.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the predetermined maximum number of icons is greater than one icon and less than or equal to a total number of icons viewable within an environment the icon is displayed in.

10.   (Currently amended) The method according to claim 7, wherein the predetermined maximum number of icons is the number of icons having associated thumbnail data viewable within an environment the icon is displayed in.

11.   (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the superimposed view rendered is rendered within a window displayed in a graphical user interface.

12.   (Currently amended) A method, comprising:

obtaining a predetermined maximum number of icons for which thumbnail data will be pre-cached, independent of the number of icons displayed;

pre-caching thumbnail data associated with at least one icon displayed in a viewable interface and up to the predetermined maximum number of icons, the thumbnail data representative of content of an associated object, and the icons displayed in a viewable interface; and

displaying the pre-cached thumbnail data associated with the at least one a displayed icon when an indicator is hovered substantially over the at least one icon.

13.   (Original) The method according to claim 12, wherein pre-caching includes pre-caching thumbnail data associated with at least a plurality of icons, the pre-cached thumbnail

data being available for substantially instantaneous rendering at the moment the indicator is hovered substantially over one of the plurality of icons having associated pre-cached thumbnail data.

14. (Original) The method according to claim 13, wherein the thumbnail data is pre-cached in volatile memory.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 13, wherein only thumbnail data for icons currently displayed in an operating environment are pre-cached.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) A system, comprising:

an arrangement for pre-caching thumbnail data associated with at least one icon and representative of content of an associated object, the arrangement further for displaying the pre-cached thumbnail data associated with the at least one icon when an indicator is hovered substantially over the at least one icon; wherein the thumbnail data and the icon are different.

18. (Original) The system according to claim 17, wherein the arrangement includes a volatile memory for pre-caching the thumbnail data and a display device for displaying the pre-cached thumbnail data.

19. (Original) The system according to claim 18, wherein the arrangement is one of a computer system, a personal digital assistant, a pocket computer, and a wireless phone.

20. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium having instructions stored thereon that direct a computing system to:

sense the presence of an indicator in a vicinity of an icon having associated thumbnail data representative of content of an associated object; and

render a superimposed view of at least a portion of the thumbnail data, the superimposed view rendered in the vicinity of the icon.

21.   (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium having instructions stored thereon that direct a computing system to:

obtain a predetermined maximum number of icons for which thumbnail data will be pre-cached, independent of the number of icons displayed;

pre-cache thumbnail data associated with at least one icon displayed in a viewable interface and up to the predetermined maximum number of icons, the thumbnail data representative of content of an associated object, and the icons displayed in a viewable interface; and

display the pre-cached thumbnail data associated with the at least one a displayed icon when an indicator is hovered substantially over the at least one icon.

22.   (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the icon and the rendered view of the thumbnail data are different.

23.   (New) The method of claim 12, wherein the predetermined maximum number of icons for which thumbnail data will be pre-cached is less than the number of icons displayed.

24.   (New) The method of claim 23, wherein the displayed icons for which thumbnail data will be pre-cached are chosen based in part on the icon first hovered over by an indicator.

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25.   (New) The method of claim 24, wherein the displayed icons for which thumbnail data will be pre-cached are chosen based in part on their displayed location in relation to the displayed location of an icon first hovered over by an indicator.

26.   (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the displayed icons for which thumbnail data will be pre-cached are chosen based in part on being displayed in the vicinity of the displayed location of an icon first hovered over by an indicator.